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## REMARKS

### Claim Amendments

Claim 1 and 9 are amended herewith to specify that the components are in solution phase and the PIP is used in an amount sufficient to form a mixture having the viscosity superior to the sum of the viscosities of the two independent components. Applicant believes adequate support is provided in the specification for this amendment, in particular in the example section which provides numerous examples and comparisons between mixtures and the individual components.

### Rejection Of Claims Under 35 USC §103(a):

1. Claims 1-20 are rejected as being allegedly obvious over the teachings of Poff (US 6,123,667). Applicant have amended claims 1 and 9. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are patentable over the cited art as the reference does not teach or suggest the presently claimed invention with all its limitations.

Applicant submits that Poff does not teach or suggest compositions as presently claimed. The Examiner properly noted that, while Poff discloses PAG macromers, it does not teach compositions of PAG macromers with PAG-interacting polymers which have an increased viscosity as claimed here. Poff does not suggest a need for increasing the viscosity of macromer solutions, nor is Poff concerned in evaluating the viscoelastic properties of the macromeric solutions. Poff only teaches the presence of hyaluronic acid with regard to tissue-affixing articles or patches, and does not teach or suggest the formation of solutions containing the hyaluronic acid. Poff is particularly silent as to how to incorporate the hyaluronic acid into the articles. Poff does not teach the use of any specific amount of HA to be used, less an amount sufficient to increase the viscosity of the mixture to be greater than the sum of the viscosities of the components. Therefore, Poff lacks the necessary teaching of the present claims with all its limitations or motivation to modify its teaching to arrive at the presently claimed invention. In summary, Poff does not teach or suggest the presently claimed compositions and methods as a whole.

Accordingly, because the cited art fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention with all its limitations, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.